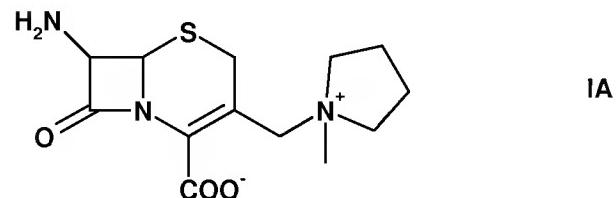


IN THE CLAIMS:

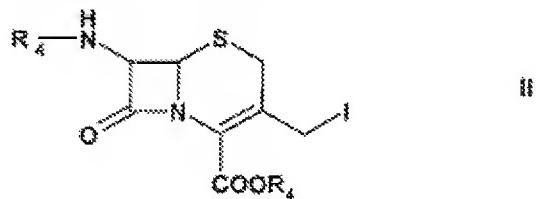
Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A process for the production of a compound of formula 1A

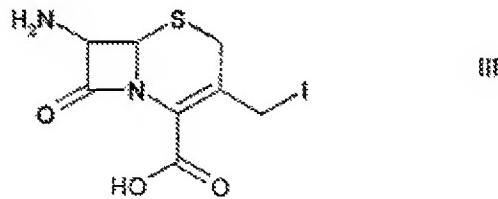


comprising the steps of:

a) desilylation of a compound of formula II,

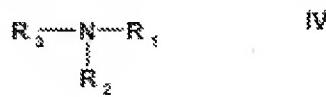


wherein R_4 is a silyl-protecting group, by adding a protic solvent to obtain a compound of formula III;



and

b) reacting the compound of formula III with an organic base of formula IV,



wherein R_2 and R_3 together represent a C4-alkylene group, and with the adjacent nitrogen atom form a saturated 5-membered heterocycle, and R_1 represents a methyl group, to obtain the compound of formula 1A.

13. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 12, wherein the protic solvent and the organic base of formula IV are added steps a) and b) are carried out simultaneously in a reaction container.

14. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 12, wherein the protic solvent comprises a (C₁₋₄)-alcohol ~~or a mixture of several (C₁₋₄)-alcohols~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 13, wherein the protic solvent comprises a (C₁₋₄)-alcohol ~~or a mixture of several (C₁₋₄)-alcohols~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises ~~at least one selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol, 2-methylpropan-2-ol, glycol, glycerol, propanediol, or butanediol~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises isopropanol ~~or 1,2-butanediol~~.

18. (Previously Presented) The process according to 12, wherein the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) is obtained in the form of an acid addition salt and/or hydrate.

19. (Previously Presented) The process according to 12, further comprising converting the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) to the form of an acid addition salt and/or a hydrate.

20. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 19, wherein the acid addition salt is a hydriodide or a hydrochloride.

21. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 19, wherein the hydrate is a monohydrate.

22. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 1 hour after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

23. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 30 minutes after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

24. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 10 minutes after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

25. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 1 minute after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

26. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a $\Delta 3/\Delta 2$ ratio of greater than 95/5.

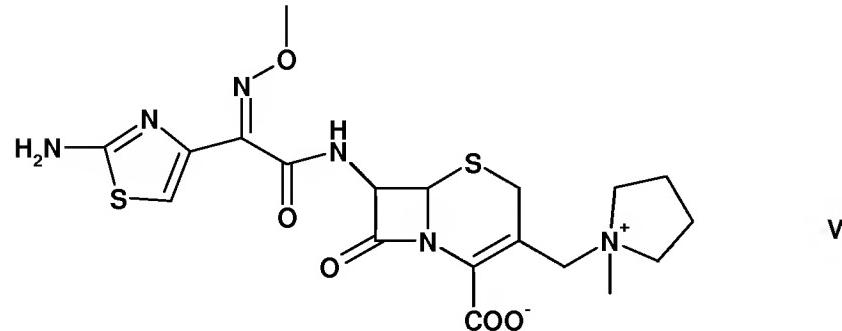
27. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a $\Delta 3/\Delta 2$ ratio of greater than 95/1.

28. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a $\Delta 3/\Delta 2$ ratio of greater than 95/0.5.

29. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a $\Delta 3/\Delta 2$ ratio of greater than 95/0.1.

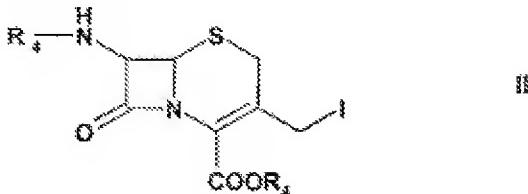
30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of cefepime of formula V

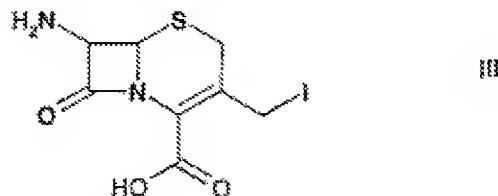


or one of its acid addition salts or its hydrates, the process comprising the steps of:

- a) desilylation of a compound of formula II,



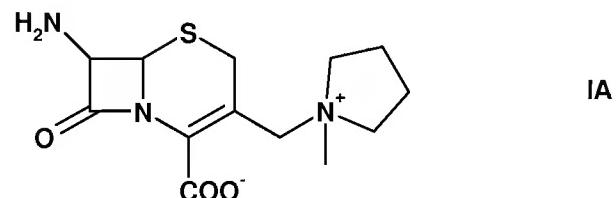
wherein R4 is a silyl-protecting group, by adding a protic solvent to obtain a compound of formula III



- b) reacting the compound of formula III obtained in step a) with a strong organic base of formula IVA



to obtain a compound of formula IA;



c) optional conversion of the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) into a form of an acid addition salt and/or a hydrate; and

d) acylation of the 7-amino group of the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) or of its acid addition salt and/or hydrate obtained from step c) to obtain the cefepime of formula V, wherein ~~the steps a) and b) are carried out the protic solvent and the organic base of formula IV are added simultaneously in a reaction chamber.~~

32. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the protic solvent comprises a mixture of several (C_{1-4})-alcohols.
33. (New) The process according to claim 13, wherein the protic solvent comprises a mixture of several (C_{1-4})-alcohols.
34. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises ethanol.
35. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises isopropanol.
36. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises n-propanol.
37. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises 2-methylpropan-2-ol.
38. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises glycol.
39. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises glycerol.
40. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises propanediol.
41. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises butanediol.
42. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises 1,2-butanediol.